Synthetic Media Provenance Research: Illustrative Evidence Brief

ILLUSTRATIVE SPECIALIST EVIDENCE BRIEF | PUBLIC-SOURCE AND SERVICE METHODOLOGY

No completed client matter is represented. This document demonstrates questions, evidence requirements, limitations and possible deliverables. It contains no verified findings about a named buyer or company. A matter, source access, fixed fee and timing require separate written acceptance.

Commissioned decision

This specialist review focuses on **Synthetic Media Provenance Research**, within **AI Governance, Model Risk & Evidence Assurance**. The decision owner asks: **Can vendor AI assertions be traced to evidence that supports the buyer's decision?** The specific fact being tested, relevant entity, territory and historical period must be defined before any casework.

Narrow first commission

Investigate one named subject, one agreed current-versus-historical claim, the most relevant `model card` and one independent cross-check. Stop if original records are unavailable or the decision cannot be resolved in the agreed scope.

Original-record plan

- Source the exact original `model card` and capture jurisdiction, publisher and date.
- Verify identity against `vendor technical document` and document whether it is independent.
- Test `unreplicable accuracy claim` as a rival explanation.
- Check the alternative `missing evaluation population` rather than treating an unreturned search result as exculpatory.
- Ask whether `unsupported security promise` would require the decision owner to commission a qualified specialist.

Illustrative two-page PDF composition

Page 1: Case-neutral purpose, exact research questions, allowed source universe and decision relevance; do not name a supposed real client.

Page 2: Source-to-question matrix with no fabricated findings, a material contradiction register, a precise request for the missing original records and reliance boundaries.

Specific deliverable tables: claim-to-test map, documentary gap register, vendor clarification pack.

Example report table (empty until an authorised case)

Evidence question; Proposed source; What must be verified; Result

Which entity/asset is named?; model card; Exact identifiers and record period; Not investigated in this specimen

Does the claim survive a contrary source?; vendor technical document; Independence, timing and scope; Not investigated in this specimen

What would change the answer?; NIST AI RMF; unreplicable accuracy claim; Not investigated in this specimen

Applicable source portals

Ref; Primary source / comparator; Link; Evidence limitation and status

EU-AI-2026; European Commission AI Act Service Desk: AI Act staged enforcement and application; https://ai-act-service-desk.ec.europa.eu/en/ai-act/faq/when-does-enforcement-start; WEB CHECKED 2026-10-12. The dates differ by obligation; do not treat all AI Act requirements as simultaneously applicable

NIST-AI; U.S. NIST: AI risk management framework; https://www.nist.gov/itl/ai-risk-management-framework; WEB CHECKED 2026-10-12. Voluntary risk management framework; not an AI certification

Buyer action and exclusions

- Reader: AI buyers, vendors, risk committees and disputes teams.
- Commercial trigger to check: AI procurement, public performance claim, model release or new AI policy.
- Send the decision question and identifiers through the existing written-enquiry route; do not send restricted records by insecure email.
- **Professional boundary:** No AI certification, conformance assessment, penetration testing or blanket accuracy guarantee.
- Do not imply the claimed facts are proven, that this is a completed sample case, or that named competitors have endorsed Aperture.

Release quality controls

- Confirm the appointing client, exact research question, relevant location, decision date, conflicts, privacy, sanctions and licensing.
- Check original source identity, authority, issue date, effective date, retrieval timestamp, version and lawful access.
- Reproduce important calculations and compare at least one plausible contrary explanation.
- Keep allegations, regulatory findings, historical claims and unresolved matches distinct.
- Mark each proposed finding supported, partially supported, contradicted, unresolved or outside mandate; include missing-source requests.
- Confirm that illustrations do not imply a real engagement, completed investigation, certified outcome or affiliation with named comparators.
- Obtain final human sign-off on accuracy, legal boundaries, confidentiality, claims and publication version before release.

Professional boundaries: Independent research support only. No legal, tax, investment, audit, valuation, brokerage, investigation requiring a specific professional licence or regulated opinion is implied. No confidential material should be sent before instructions.